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005/021

Application No.: 09/656,310

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Docket No.: 04783/016001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A printing method with a printer connected to a host device, comprising:
sending, in response to a request from the host device, information corresponding to a number of print objects the printer can simultaneously handle;
receiving, from the host device, a first print setting information and a number of object identifiers corresponding to the number of print objects the printer can simultaneously handle, wherein each of the number of object identifiers is associated with one of a plurality of print objects;
requesting print object data for each of the plurality of print objects using the number of object identifiers;
receiving the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects from the host; and
printing the plurality of print objects using the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects and the first print setting information
~~receiving first print setting information sent from said host device;~~
~~communicating information relating to an object number for print object data between said host device and said printer;~~
~~receiving from said host device the object number assigned to said print object data;~~
~~requesting said print object data from said host device pursuant to said first print setting information, using said object number;~~
~~receiving said print object data sent from said host device in reply to said request; and~~
~~printing said print object data based on said first print setting information.~~
2. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:
receiving inquiry information regarding the print setting sent from said host device; and
sending reply information to said host device based on [[the]] characteristic information of said printer in reply to said received inquiry information; and
~~receiving first print setting information sent from said host device in response to said reply information.~~

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3. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:
preparing a second print setting information based on the printer characteristic information of said printer; and
printing at least one of the plurality of print objects using at least one selected from the group consisting of the first print setting and the second print setting information
~~the print object data based on said first print setting information and/or second print setting information.~~
4. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:
when said first print setting information designates printing based on [[a]] the plurality of print object data, respectively requesting said plurality of print object data.
5. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 4, further comprising:
specifying an order for requesting the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects in a prescribed order based on said first print setting information; and
requesting said ~~specified print object data~~ the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects in the order.
6. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:
dividing a prescribed print area of a print recording medium into prescribed partial areas
when said received first print setting information is designating automatic arrangement of print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects;
and
requesting print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects from said host device to be arranged within said divided prescribed partial areas based on said first print setting information by said printer.
7. (Original) A printing method according to claim 6, further comprising:
dividing said prescribed print area into said prescribed partial areas made from said prescribed number of divisions in accordance with the value relating to a prescribed number of divisions designated by said first print setting information.
8. (Original) A printing method according to claim 6, further comprising:

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determining the arrangement area of the print object data to be arranged within said prescribed partial areas in accordance with the margin value designated by said first print setting information.

9. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 6, further comprising:
generating a prescribed band area worth of bit map data based on said print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects sent from said host device.
10. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 6, further comprising:
respectively requesting ~~a plurality of~~ print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects to be arranged in said partial areas belonging to a prescribed band area in said prescribed print area.
11. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 1, further comprising:
requesting ~~specific~~ print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects from said host device based on issued management information, wherein management information comprises print object data specifying information for at least one of the plurality of print objects.
12. (Previously Presented) A printing method according to claim 11, further comprising:
receiving an issuance request of management information sent from said host device; and
issuing said management information in accordance with the print setting information in response to said received issuance request.
13. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 12, further comprising:
issuing new management information when the processing related to the printing of print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects sent from said host device is completed.
14. (Currently Amended) A printing method according to claim 11, further comprising:
releasing the management information of said completed print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects when the processing relating to the printing of said print object data for at least one of the plurality of print objects is completed; and
sending said released management information to said host device.

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15-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A printer connected to a host device, comprising:

processing means for interpreting command data sent from said host device and
performing prescribed processing in accordance with said interpretation result;

storage means for storing print object data bit-map data; and

printing means for executing printing to a print recording medium based on said print
object data bit-map data stored in said storage means;

wherein said processing means includes functionality to:

~~request means for requesting from said host device print object data designated
by first print setting information based on command data relating to a
print setting, using an object number assigned to said print object data;~~

~~receiving means for receiving from said host device said print object data in reply
to said request; and~~

~~generation means for generating bit map data based on said print object data and
storing said bit map data in said storage means.~~

send, in response to a request from the host device, information corresponding to
a number of print objects the printer can simultaneously handle;

receive, from the host device, a first print setting information and a number of
object identifiers corresponding to the number of print objects the printer
can simultaneously handle, wherein each of the number of object
identifiers is associated with one of a plurality of print objects;

request said print object data for each of the plurality of print objects using the
number of object identifiers;

receive the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects from the
host; and

print the plurality of print objects using the print object data for each of the
plurality of print objects and the first print setting information.

19. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means sends
to said host device reply information based on ~~[[its]]~~ characteristic information
associated with the printer in response to ~~command data relating to~~ a print setting

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inquiry; and receives ~~command data relating to~~ the first print setting information sent from said host device in response to said reply information.

20. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means prepares second print setting information based on [[its]] characteristic information of said first print setting information; and generates bit map data ~~of said~~ corresponding to at least one the plurality of print objects using print object based on at least one selected from the group consisting of said first print setting information and [[or]] said second print setting information.
21. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 18, wherein when said first print setting information designates printing based on ~~a plurality of print object data for at least one~~ the plurality of print objects, said processing means ~~respectively requests said plurality of print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects.~~
22. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 21, wherein said processing means ~~specifies~~ requests print object data for each of the plurality of print objects in an ~~prescribed order based on said first print setting information and requests said specified print object data~~ print object data for each of the plurality of print objects in the order.
23. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means divides a prescribed print area of a print recording medium into prescribed partial areas when said received first print setting information is designating automatic arrangement of print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects; and said printer requests print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects to be arranged within said divided prescribed partial areas from said host device based on said first print setting information.
24. (Original) A printer according to claim 23, wherein said processing means divides said prescribed print area into said prescribed partial areas made from said prescribed number of divisions in accordance with the value relating to a prescribed number of divisions designated by said first print setting information.

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25. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 23, wherein said processing means determines the arrangement area of the print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects to be arranged within said prescribed partial areas in accordance with the margin value designated by said first print setting information.
26. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 23, wherein said processing means generates a prescribed band area worth of bit map data based on said print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects sent from said host device.
27. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 23, wherein said processing means respectively requests a plurality of print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects to be arranged in said partial areas belonging to a prescribed band area in said prescribed print area.
28. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means requests specific print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects from said host device based on issued management information.
29. (Previously Presented) A printer according to claim 28, wherein said processing means issues said management information in accordance with the print setting information in response to a command request relating to the issuance request of management information.
30. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 28, wherein said processing means issues new management information when the processing related to the printing of print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects is completed.
31. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 28, wherein said processing means releases the management information of said completed print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects when the processing relating to the printing of said print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects is completed; and sends said released management information to said host device.

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32. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means requests said print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects from said host device upon receiving information relating to the termination of the print setting.
33. (Currently Amended) A printer according to claim 18, wherein said processing means suspends printing upon receiving print suspension information from said host device while printing said print object data for at least one the plurality of print objects.
34. (Original) A printer according to claim 33, wherein said processing means sends information relating to the termination of print processing to said host device upon controlling the suspension of said printing.
35. (Cancelled)
36. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing a program for controlling a printer connected a host device, the program comprising instructions for:
sending, in response to a request from the host device, information corresponding
to a number of print objects the printer can simultaneously handle;
receiving, from the host device, a first print setting information and a number of
object identifiers corresponding to the number of print objects the printer
can handle, wherein each of the number of object identifiers is associated
with one of a plurality of print objects;
requesting print object data for each of the plurality of print objects using the
number of object identifiers;
receiving the print object data for each of the plurality of print objects from the
host; and
printing the plurality of print objects using the print object data for each of the
plurality of print objects and the first print setting information.
~~a processing function for interpreting command data sent from said host device and~~
~~performing proscribed processing in accordance with results of the interpreting;~~
~~wherein said processing function comprises:~~
~~a request function for requesting from said host device print object data~~
~~designated by print setting information based on command data relating to~~

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~~a print setting, using an object number assigned to said print object data;~~
~~and~~

~~a generation function for obtaining print object data based on command data relating to data transmission and generating bit map data based on said print object data and said print setting information, and storing said bit map data in a prescribed memory.~~

37. - 40. (Cancelled)